

The author of this book goes so far as to aver that if the arts are flourishing in France it is not in spite of the republican régime but thanks to it. The British critic of the French régime is in monarchial Britain and in republican France. Let him in the former country seek out a Ministry of Fine Arts; here he will find none. Let him in the latter country seek in vain. He will find the National Gallery continually short of funds; street improvements left to elected county or borough councillors; official architecture to nobody in particular. In France these matters have been thought so important that the figure of £485,000,000 is the largest total ever noted for French foreign trade, but when we are reminded that the commerce of the republic attained practically an equal aggregate before 1892 we can see at once that a terrible crisis must have taken place in the history of the last fifteen years. France has now recovered its former position; but a great and costly experiment in protectionism has been made and ended in the most dismal of failures. French trade was half ruined, and only the French tariff, the free-trade system has practically abandoned. Up to 1892 France was virtually a free-trade nation

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It appears that the middle classes, properly so called, are not alone affected. Restriction prevails among the peasants, whose frugality and foresight lead them to understand that they can only save their beloved fields from indefinite partition by keeping their families small. Thus only the working class remains, and even the more enlightened parts of the proletariat are following the movement, with the result that an increase is taking place exclusively among the less desirable classes. The more degraded, the more ignorant and the higher the birth rate. This is the state of things in Great Britain as in France, with the result that in both countries the State would be swamped with those whose heredity is poor if in-

Of course not all plays produced in France are serious; far from it. With those pieces whose sole object is to entertain our author is not concerned. What he has in mind is such plays as "La Vie

Our author directs attention to the fundamental fact that in France women are usually confronted with small means and the necessity of making a little go a long way, for as a rule salaries and profits are not large. Even where the reverse is the case the French ingrained tendency toward economy induces all classes to economize. It is not, therefore, altogether uncommon to find a French family saving ten to twenty-five per cent. of its annual receipts. Thus we find true economy exemplified by the French housewife; in spite of the high price of foodstuffs and household requisites she maintains a standard of comfort that is unknown among the corresponding classes in Great Britain. "The fare is more pleasing and far more varied; it is far more hearty, which is a necessary condition of health and for national cheerfulness; servants are more cleanly and so efficient that

Mr. Lang points out that even for Prince Charles Edward all hope was over after his return from Culloden to France in 1745; his character, like that of James II., had wholly broken down; he became impossible. Nevertheless, although abandoned by his wife, Louise of Stolberg, whom he created Countess of Albany but who deserted him for the poet Alfieri, he was tenderly cherished in his last days by an illegitimate daughter, Charlotte Stuart, to whom the Pope granted the style and precedence of a Duchess of Albany. Under her care he lingered until January 31, 1788, drawing around himself to the last the love and loyalty that centuries had gathered around the Stuart name. By posterity also his faults and failings were forgiven him for the sake of the brave, bright hour of courage and patience, of generosity, clemency and kindness, of joyous endurance and hardship and danger, of all the qualities that led to the making of the perfect knight—"king of the Highland hearts, bonnie Prince Charlie!"

Henry Stuart, Duke, and ultimately Cardinal of York, was born in 1726, and lived to see the downfall of the French

There will be girls, too, who can show you a few stunts in bronco busting and rodeo riding, shooting and many a trick learned in the saloon. And there is sure to be a dance and the fun will run high as the tall young, ranchmen with bandannas tied on their arms to signify they are "girls" get out their spurs and all but give the quadrille. No dearth of men here! Girls are at a high premium and receive enough attention to keep their eyes sparkling like silver. The scene in the big ranch house lacks nothing in picturesqueness. The electric lights are softened by paper shades the color of the faded pink of a girl's cheeks; everywhere; the telephone jingles with greetings from this, that and the other outlying quarter, and if these cowpunchers are grown men, one day in every four they are women, assuredly coming on one day at least. They own the ranch and are free to let their big hearts loose in a realm of frolic and feasting as wide-